PTO/SB/21 (08-00) Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031 U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE NOV 2 4 2003 Inder the Paperwork Reg tion Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. E TRADEMARK 09/844,935 Application Number TRANSMITTAL 04/27/2001 **Filing Date** Alexander Munishkin, et al. FORM **First Named Inventor** Group Art Unit (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing) 1634 **Examiner Name** Arun K. CHAKRABARTI 30318-110CON Attorney Docket Number Total Number of Pages in This Submission **ENCLOSURES** (check all that apply) After Allowance Communication **Assignment Papers** Fee Transmittal Form (for an Application) to Group Appeal Communication to Board Fee Attached Drawing(s) of Appeals and Interferences Licensing-related Papers Appeal Communication to Group Amendment / Reply (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) Petition After Final Proprietary Information Petition to Convert to a Affidavits/declaration(s) Provisional Application Status Letter Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Other Enclosure(s) (please Extension of Time Request Address identify below): **Terminal Disclaimer** Post Card **Express Abandonment Request** Request for Refund Information Disclosure Statement CD, Number of CD(s). Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) Remarks Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT Firm Stephen J. Gaudet Reg. No.: 48*.*921 Individual name Signature Date CERTIFICATE OF MAILING I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 on this date: November 20, 2003 Renee P. Granito Typed or printed name

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NOV 2 4 2003 BE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Munishkin et al.

Serial No.: 09/844,935

Filed: April 27, 2001

Title: Compositions, Methods and Apparatus for Determining The Presence or Absence of Target Molecules

Docket No.: 30318-110CON

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Stepher J. Gaudet Reg. No. 48,921

Attorney for Applicants

Art Unit:

Examiner:

1634

Chakrabarti, A

REPLY C

Sir:

In response to an Office Action dated October 17, 2003, Applicants file the following reply.